ACE OF BASE HIDDEN GEMS

1. WOULD YOU BELIEVE

(Written by Jonas ”Joker” Berggren)

Jonas: ”Tommy Ekman helped me with it and it has a certain summer flow to it. Or so I think anyway. It was a new trick to let the chords go higher and higher during a song, from start to end. Not sure if another such song exists?”

Produced by Tommy Ekman.
Co-produced by Jonas Berggren.
Previously unreleased.
(Era: Da Capo)

2. GO GO GO

(Written by Jonas ”Joker” Berggren)

Jonas: *”Go Go Go is an old song, I wrote the chorus in the beginning of the 90’s and originally it was called Dr Beat. This version was recorded and produced in Stockholm later on.”*

Produced by Pontus Söderqvist.
Co-produced by Jonas Berggren.
Previously unreleased.
(Era: Da Capo)

3. INTO THE NIGHT OF BLUE

(Written by Jonas Berggren, Douglas Carr and Diane Warren)

Jonas: *”Douglas Carr and I wrote the song together with Diane Warren in LA. She showed us her secret ”inspiration room” where nothing had changed over the years. It was full of old equipment and felt very ruff. It was so cool, she said few people had seen it and that she wrote much of her songs in there.”*

Produced by Jonas Berggren and Stephen Hague.
Bonus track on the Japanese ”Cruel Summer” album.

4. DON’T STOP

(Written by Jonas ”Joker” Berggren, Arild Haugland and Birthe Berggren)

Jonas: *”I wrote this one with ”the family” so to say. Fun collaboration without prestige, I like that. Made in Radøy, Norway. Good memories!”*

B-side from the single ”The Juvenile”.
Produced by Harry Sommerdahl, Jonas ”Joker” Berggren, Jonas von der Burg.
Arranged by Harry Sommerdahl, Jonas ”Joker” Berggren, Jonas von der Burg.
Backing vocals: Harry Sommerdahl.
Mixed by Jonas von der Burg, Robert Wellerfors.
(Era: Da Capo)

5. MAKE MY DAY

(Written by Jonas ”Joker” Berggren)

Jonas: ”The latest version of this song and an up-tempo one!”

Produced by Tommy Ekman.
Co-produced by Jonas Berggren.
Previously unreleased.
(Era: Da Capo)

6. MERCY MERCY

(Written by Ulf Ekberg and John Ballard)

Ulf: *”It’s common to think this opening lyric to ”Mercy, Mercy” is a timeless sentiment about a changing relationship between lovers. But it isn’t. Rather, it is a timeless lament about the environmental injuries Earth has endured. When we set out to write and produce ”The Bridge” album, I was working without Jonas for the first time, creating concept songs with each song leading into the next. The concept was to write songs from the vantage point of a lonely human soul, returning to a world of suffering and injustice. Several other songs are the continuing story from ”Happy Nation” and ”Perfect World”.*

In ”Mercy, Mercy”, a lonely human soul is aghast, saddened by the stark change she sees in the sky and the sea – to her, an unnecessary change delivered by the hands of her fellow humans. It’s as though the lonely human soul is looking skyward, shaking her head to herself and wishing to forget how ugly we can be, because she knows.I always thought that this song would have been a great 3rd single. Fantastic groove, guitars and hooks.”

B-side from the single ”Always have, Always will”.
Produced by Charles Fisher and Ulf Ekberg at Tuff Studios, Gothenburg.
Additional production by John Ballard and Stonestream.
Mixed at Image Studios by Chris Lord Alge.
Vocals by Jenny, Malin and Ulf.
(Era: The Bridge)

7. NO GOOD LOVER

(Written by Jonas Berggren)

Jonas*: ”It was there to ”balance up” the single so people would still get some reggae.”*

B-side from the single ”Life is a flower”.
Engineer: Amatiello, Pin-Point, Produced by John Amatiello, Joker.
Recorded and mixed by John Amatiello, Joker. Vocals by Jenny & Linn.
(Era: Flowers)

8. SUMMER DAYS

(Written by Jonas ”Joker” Berggren)

Jonas: *”Another song about my father and the West Coast of Sweden and how he taught me about the summer, about life and about the sea. Göran, what a father!! Proud to be your son.”*

From the Japanese Da Capo release.
Produced by Jonas von der Burg, Jonas ”Joker” Berggren.
(Era: Da Capo)

9. GIVING IT UP (2014 REMAKE)

(Written by Joker/Buddha)

Jonas: *”Such a good old song, don´t you think?! From the time of the first album, and I still love it”*

Recorded and produced byJoker/Buddha.
Additional recordings and production 2014 by Johan Edman and Magnus Vänttinen.
(Era: The Sign/Happy Nation)

10. COME TO ME (ACE VERSION)

(Written by Jonas ”Joker” Berggren, Arild Haugland and Birthe Berggren)

Jonas: *”Here is a song many people say is one of the best unreleased from us. Thanks! The record company had a strong belief in it as well. I think it is still good. Birthe and Arild Haugland wrote this together with me. A little family song you might say.”*

Recorded, mixed and produced by Håkan Kristoffersson .
and Jonas Berggren at The Barn Studios.
Previously unreleased.
(Era: Da Capo)

11. PRIME TIME

(Written by Jonas ”Joker” Berggren)

Jonas: *”Prime Time is the last version of Cuba Cuba Libre. Many versions he he ;-) Here with almost new lyrics, it was recorded in 2005 together with Tommy Ekman. We were aiming for a new album then but didn’t find the energy needed unfortunately.”*

Produced by Tommy Ekman. Co-produced by Jonas Berggren.
Previously unreleased.
(Era: Da Capo)

12. LOOK AROUND ME

(Written by Ulf Ekberg and John Ballard)

Ulf: *”Look Around Me” is a follow up on ”Mercy Mercy” where she finally finds her meaning of life: Hope & Love! It was a real Ace of Base pop song and I always thought that this song and Mercy Mercy would have been great singles. Important ingredients to the ”Perfect World” and also connecting all three songs with ”Happy Nation”. Still today I really love the beat and the hook lines. Both Malin, Jenny and Ulf are doing the vocals.*

Produced by John Ballard, Ulf Ekberg and Björn Stenström.
Previously unreleased.
(Era: The Bridge)

13. POLE POSITION

(Written by Jonas Berggren, Ulf Ekberg, Malin Berggren, Jenny Berggren)

Ulf: *”We wanted this to be our first single and Jacques Villeneuve would do a feature on it when he was F1 World Champion.”*

Recorded, mixed and produced by Joker/Buddha at The Barn Studios.
Previously unreleased.
(Era: The Sign/Happy Nation)

14. SUNSET IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

(Written by Jonas ”Joker” Berggren)

Jonas: *”This song was later re-written for the Golden Ratio album. This was the first ”cut” of it though. I can’t tell which one is the best, but Linn’s voice is always a pleasure to hear.”*

Produced by Tommy Ekman.
Co-produced by Jonas Berggren.
Previously unreleased.
(Era: Da Capo)

15. MOMENT OF MAGIC

(Written by Jonas Berggren, Ulf Ekberg, Malin Berggren, Jenny Berggren)

Jonas: *”An Ace of Base song written by myself, Ulf, Jenny and Linn together. That makes it special”*

Also known as Green Grass.
Recorded, mixed and produced by Joker/Buddha at The Barn Studios.
Previously unreleased.
(Era: Da Capo)

16. HEY DARLING (BELLS VERSION)

(Written by Jonas ”Joker” Berggren)

Jonas: ”*This was the second version of the track, Ole Evenrud produced it and I liked it but wasn't sure about some of the instrumental ”sounds” he added to the original. Nevertheless, here it is!”*

Produced by Ole Evenrud
Previously unreleased version.
(Era: Da Capo)

17. CUBA CUBA LIBRE

(Written by Jonas ”Joker” Berggren)

Jonas: *”Cuba Cuba Libre; Nice people in Cuba, I hope the land will open up soon, they deserve it. Ole Evenrud produced it and made it sound more ACE OF BASE then we had done in a long time. I really wanted this track to be released but no-one at Mega liked it. So here it is with some time delay...”*

Produced by Ole Evenrud
Previously unreleased version.
(Era: Da Capo)

Compiled by Jonas Berggren and Ulf Ekberg.
Re-mastered by Björn Engelmann at The Cutting Room, Stockholm.

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Photos from the Mega Records archives.
Executive producers Jonas Sjöström and Lars Tengroth at Playground Music.

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